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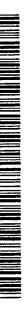
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61K31/425 A61P3/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K A61P

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed in annex.		
Special categories of cited documents: A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	 "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family 		
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report		
21 May 2001	01/06/2001		
Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer		
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Orviz Diaz, P		

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
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C./Continua	(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.				
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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

The expression "insulin sensitiser" encompasses an extremely large number of compounds which might have this characteristic. However, the description only provides support for pioglitazone. Consequently, the requirements of Art. 6 PCT are not met, and a complete search is not possible. The search had to be limited to the general concept of insulin sensitisers and to pioglitazone. During the search for the general concept some documents were retrieved which referred to other specific compounds mentioned in claim 3. However, these compounds were not specifically searched.

The medical indications of claims 19 or 22 were not specifically searched either. They were considered to form unity with the treatment of keto-acidosis in so far as all of these diseases are related to diabetes. The use of the compounds of the invention for the treatment of diabetes and all its related diseases is well known. Consequently all the potentially different inventions listed in claims 19 or 22 can be considered to be fully covered by the documents cited in the Search Report. It was not deemed necessary to raise an objection of lack of unity.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

Information on patent family members

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